

WASHINGTON CITY.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 6, 1858.

The question recurring upon the motion that Mr. GARNETT, of Virginia, be excused from voting.

Mr. MILLS, of South Carolina, asked to be excused from voting upon that question; which was agreed to—yeas 98, nays 50.

The question recurring upon the motion to excuse Mr. GARNETT from voting.

Mr. PHILLIPS, of Pennsylvania, moved to reconsider the vote by which Mr. MILLS was excused from voting.

Mr. COLFAX, of Indiana, moved that that vote be laid on the table; which motion was agreed to—yeas 106, nays 52.

Mr. CHAIGLE, of North Carolina, then moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to—yeas 74, nays 95.

The question recurring upon the motion that Mr. GARNETT be excused from voting.

Mr. WARREN, of Arkansas, moved that he be excused from voting upon that question, and demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

[Our report closed at 11 o'clock; the House had not adjourned at 1 o'clock, when the Union went to press.]

THE ARMY—GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, Jan. 25, 1858.

I. At the general court-martial which convened at Santa Fe, New Mexico, pursuant to "Special Orders," No. 104, of September 29, 1857, from the headquarters of the department of New Mexico, and of which Colonel Benjamin L. E. Bonneville, 3d Infantry, is president, were arraigned and tried Brevet Major William H. Gordon, captain 3d Infantry, on the following charges and specifications, viz:

CHARGE I.

"Drunkenness on duty."

Specification.—"In this: That Brevet Major William H. Gordon, captain 3d Infantry, did, during the session of a general court-martial at Fort Defiance, New Mexico, September 4, 1857, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 84, headquarters, department of New Mexico, Santa Fe, August 24, 1857, did present himself at the meeting of said court drunk."

CHARGE II.

"Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

Specification.—"In this: That Brevet Major William H. Gordon, captain 3d Infantry, did, during the session of a general court-martial at Fort Defiance, New Mexico, on or about the 4th day of September, 1857, of which court the said Brevet Major Gordon was a member, upon being objected to as a member by the judge advocate, Assistant Surgeon B. J. D. Irwin, United States Army, and upon being requested to withdraw from the court during the discussion of said objection, make use of the following language: 'No, I will not withdraw. I don't care a damn for his objections. I will have the vote of the court. I consider it a dog's head piece of business, and will take notice of it on some other occasion, or words to that effect, said in an angry and menacing manner.'"

To which charges and specifications the accused pleaded "Not guilty."

FINDINGS OF THE COURT.

The court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, Brevet Major William H. Gordon, captain 3d Infantry, as follows:

CHARGE I.

Specification.—"Guilty," and "Guilty of the charge."

CHARGE II.

Specification.—"Guilty," and "Guilty of the charge."

SENTENCE.

And the court does, therefore, sentence the said Brevet Major William H. Gordon, captain 3d Infantry, "To be cashiered."

II. In conformity with the 65th article of war, the proceedings of the general court-martial in the foregoing case have been transmitted to the Secretary of War, and by him laid before the President of the United States. The following are the orders thereon:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 23, 1858.

The finding and sentence of the court are confirmed. But, in consideration of the unanimous recommendation of the court, the sentence is mitigated to suspension from rank and pay, and confinement to the post for six months.

JOHN B. FLOYD,
Secretary of War.

III. At the general court-martial which convened at Fort Arbuckle, Choctaw nation, pursuant to "Special Orders," No. 69, of September 21, 1857, from the headquarters of the department of the West, and of which Captain Henry Little, 7th Infantry, is president, was arraigned and tried Private John Hollins, of company E, 7th Infantry, on the following charges and specifications, viz:

CHARGE I.

"Violation of the ninth article of war."

Specification.—"In this: That Private John Hollins, of company E, 7th Infantry, did, after inflicting a dangerous wound upon Corporal Maurice Sullivan, of company E, 7th Infantry, and, in execution of said determination and threat, did attempt the life of said Sullivan by inflicting upon him a dangerous wound with a butcher knife, which was evidently designed to produce his death; he (the said Sullivan) being at the time the senior non-commissioned officer of a surveying party to which the said Hollins belonged, and, in consequence, placed in immediate authority over him, (the said Hollins) and being also in the proper execution of his office—in endeavoring to quell mutinous, insubordinate, and riotous conduct upon the part of the aforesaid Hollins. This at Camp near Fort Arbuckle, C. N., on about the ninth day of October, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven."

CHARGE II.

"Desertion."

Specification.—"In this: That Private John Hollins, of company E, 7th Infantry, did, after inflicting a dangerous wound upon Corporal Maurice Sullivan, of company E, 7th Infantry, and, in execution of said determination and threat, did attempt the life of said Sullivan by inflicting upon him a dangerous wound with a butcher knife, which was evidently designed to produce his death; he (the said Sullivan) being at the time the senior non-commissioned officer of a surveying party to which the said Hollins belonged, and, in consequence, placed in immediate authority over him, (the said Hollins) and being also in the proper execution of his office—in endeavoring to quell mutinous, insubordinate, and riotous conduct upon the part of the aforesaid Hollins. This at Camp near Fort Arbuckle, C. N., on about the ninth day of October, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven."

To which charges and specifications the accused pleaded "Not guilty."

FINDINGS OF THE COURT.

The court, having maturely weighed and considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, Private John Hollins, of company E, 7th Infantry, as follows:

CHARGE I.

Specification.—"Guilty," and "Guilty of the charge."

CHARGE II.

Specification.—"Guilty," and "Guilty of the charge."

SENTENCE.

And the court does, therefore, sentence him, the said Private John Hollins, of company E, 7th Infantry, "one-third of the members concurring therein, to be shot to death at such time and place as the President of the United States may direct."

IV. In conformity with the 65th article of war, the proceedings of the general court-martial in the foregoing case have been transmitted to the Secretary of War, and by him laid before the President of the United States. The following are the orders thereon:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 23, 1858.

These proceedings are confirmed, but the sentence is mitigated to forfeiture of all pay and allowances now due, and hereafter, except necessary fatigue clothing, and to confinement at hard labor, with ball and chain, until the 1st day of December, 1859; when Private Hollins will be dishonorably discharged. This mitigation of sentence is awarded in consideration of the provocation the prisoner awarded in the misconduct of the corporal, who had before offered violence to him, and at the time used insulting language to him.

JOHN B. FLOYD,
Secretary of War.

As the company to which Private John Hollins belongs is under orders for Utah, so much of his sentence as remains to be executed on his arrival at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, will be carried into effect at that post.

By order of the Secretary of War:

S. COOPER, Adjutant General.

NEBRASKA.—The Nebraska legislature, which had removed from Omaha to Florence, adjourned, on Saturday, the 11th ult., sine die. The citizens of Florence gave a supper to the members. Gov. Richardson was present, and made a speech. At the end of the session, the members went over to Omaha for their per diem and mileage, but Secretary Cummins refused to pay them.

WASHINGTON CITY.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 6, 1858.

Mr. JAMES E. JAMES, of Philadelphia, is our general traveling agent, assisted by JAMES DODDING, JOHN GILLES, J. HARRIS, EDWARD W. VILLEY, JOHN R. TAYLOR, E. A. EVANS, R. S. JAMES, T. ANDERSON, A. DAVIS, R. T. BOWMAN.

Mr. Geo. W. Bray is authorized to collect money due the Union office for subscriptions and advertisements in the Territory of Columbia.

Mr. C. W. James, No. 1 Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general collecting agent for the Western States and Texas, assisted by H. J. THOMAS, WILLIAM H. THOMAS, THOMAS M. JAMES, JR., A. L. GILLES, GEORGE MORRIS, and RICHARD LEAKE. Receipts of either will be good.

KANSAS IN THE HOUSE.

The business of peculiar interest and significance in the House of Representatives, yesterday, arose on the resolution of Mr. Harris, of Illinois, to refer the President's message enclosing the Lecompton constitution to a committee of fifteen, with power to send for persons and papers, upon which he moved the previous question, thus cutting off all debate. The committee thus proposed are instructed, among other things, to inquire whether said constitution is "acceptable and satisfactory to a majority of the legal voters of Kansas."

It is manifest that Mr. Harris and his republican associates are laboring under the impression that Kansas is to be admitted into Congress, and not as a member of our family-Union. We desire to contribute to a removal of this error at once. Through the territorial authorities of Kansas, the people decided, about two years ago, that they would like to be received into the confederacy. On the strength of this decision, the local legislature authorized them to frame a State constitution. That constitution is now before the House by virtue of democratic legislation and the action of the people thereon. It is most remarkable that it is met, at the moment of its reception, by a movement, headed by a prominent supporter and defender of the act of 1854, which disavowed the authority of Congress to control the action of the people of the Territories, by which it is proposed that the House of Representatives shall intervene in the local affairs of the people of Kansas in the most offensive mode known to our history.

This movement is unquestionably intended to degrade and defeat the great principle of non-intervention, upon which the democratic party met the republicans and conquered them in 1856. The proposition is to descend by committee into an inquiry concerning elections and election returns in Kansas similar to that of the republicans in the case of Whitfield, when the contest concerned the right of that gentleman to his seat in the House, and is accompanied by a motion for the previous question, thus stifling debate. The House is thus put upon its endurance. It has had about twelve hours' session, being near 12 o'clock as we write.

It is an appropriate hour, that of midnight, to risk a word of comment upon this dark proceeding on the part of a few democrats in the House. The work, too, is by stealth. By trick it is sought to reverse the judgment of the American people upon the subject of their right in States and Territories, through their own local authorities, to establish and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way. It is now found that Congress can do the work in a purer and more satisfactory manner! The people may not be trusted even with their own elections; may not determine who shall represent them at home!

ENABLING LAWS, SUBMISSION AND MR. DOUGLAS.

Mr. Douglas, in reply to Mr. Green the other day, explained two or three points upon which he thought the Senate and the country had misapprehended him in reference to the effect of enabling laws and the right of the people to establish a State constitution without submission. We understand Mr. Douglas to maintain that neither submission nor permissive laws are necessary preliminary acts to justify the admission of a new State into the Union. Such being his opinions, we find ourselves unable to appreciate his anxiety to provide the people of Kansas with a congressional passport to enable them to come here and ask to be received. While we are very far from maintaining that it is the right or the duty of Congress to interpose mere capricious objections to the admission of new members into our family-Union—to look down into matters of purely local concern—to run over poll-books, township and district returns—to act as clerks and show our legislative skill in arithmetic and petty fault-finding—these being matters beyond our reach, beyond the legal authority of Congress—we admit the possible existence of extreme cases demanding exclusion. We are quite certain, for instance, that the people of Utah, who have assumed to organize under territorial laws, live, in point of fact, under a purely theocratic government. Now, we have no idea that, with or without enabling acts, Congress would be justified by the letter or spirit of the constitution in permitting such a people to become a party to the federal compact. Their Prophet and Seer, by the very law of their society, is their political chief, their director, and their dictator. The tenure of his office is rooted wholly in the assumption that he is a Prophet of the Lord, the recipient of his special grace and wisdom, and not at all upon popular rights, which are put into absolute subjection to his will. And yet, it is seen, such a people can put on the garments of representative democracy, and invoke the protecting shield of the constitution to maintain their bigotry and fanaticism. We note this case, in order that we may not be considered as holding to any principle of fatality upon that most important of all subjects—the admission of new States into the Union. We may add that, so far as the republicans are concerned, they expressed themselves last year in favor of the admission of Kansas, and thus committed their party to the propriety of the act now proposed.

Then, Mr. Douglas maintains that the submission of constitutions to the people in the chrysalis form of passing from a territorial into a State system is not necessary to give them validity and force. Conceding, too, as we understand he does, that territorial governments, authorized by Congress, are legal bodies, and the only proper mediums by which the will of the people can be expressed, we have to ask if the senator from Illinois has any other real objection to the admission of Kansas than such as arise out of certain irregularities of the election and the alleged fact that the Lecompton constitution was not submitted to the people for ratification or rejection? If, as a principle, such submission is not required, it follows that there is something peculiar in this particular case which makes it, in the opinion of Mr. Douglas, an exception to the general rule. We certainly understand from his Springfield speech that as late as June last he had been unable to see

any serious objection to proceedings in Kansas. He maintained the legality of the territorial authorities, the binding force of the law of the 19th February, directing the election for delegates to a constitutional convention on the 15th of June following, and we believe insisted that the people should vote in order to be felt and heeded. There is no pretence that there was any fraud committed at the election of the 15th of June, and that was the last contest involving an expression of the people touching the scope and authority of delegates to ordain a constitution. It is said by Mr. Douglas, Mr. Wise, and others, that nearly half the counties of the State had neglected to take a census and make a registration of voters, and were thus defrauded and disfranchised. Mr. Stanton alleges, "as a great central fact" in opposition to this conclusion, that although there was no registry or census in nineteen counties, the resident population had predominated *not to vote*. This certainly disproves the assumed "fraud and disfranchisement," and relieves the case of all embarrassment in respect to the June election. The census and registry reached ten thousand in other counties, while only two thousand and a quarter voted. This fact goes far to fortify Mr. Stanton's statement, and is explicit against the position of Mr. Douglas in regard to the contest of the 15th of June. But if Mr. Douglas thought it his duty to protest against the manner in which the delegates were chosen nearly eight months ago, he will pardon us for expressing a little surprise that a man of his frankness and activity should withhold his opinions upon the subject till the meeting of Congress. If he concedes the regularity of that election, on the better knowledge of Mr. Stanton—conceding, too, that neither enabling acts nor submission are necessary—it follows that he must hang all his objections upon the assumed frauds in the election of the 21st of December. In respect to the latter, granting the utmost that has been asserted, they do not impeach the validity of the constitution or the fact that the majority of the votes cast were in favor of its ratification as it is now before Congress.

Mr. Douglas's objections, then, come too late. The election of the 21st of December did not involve the validity of the constitution. He has endorsed the law of the 19th February; and there is no force at all in the points raised against the election of the 15th June, except such as refer to the non-voting population of the nineteen counties whose alleged disfranchisement is abundantly denied by "the great central fact" disclosed by Mr. Stanton, that they had no confidence in the territorial government, and would not vote.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE.

The phrensy into which the President's message upon the admission of Kansas into the Union has thrown this pretentious philosopher is amongst the most refreshing spectacles of the season. It is not that simply of a cool, deliberate philosopher, losing his equanimity for a moment; it is far otherwise. We have presented to us, in all its most attractive forms, the very ecstasy of passion, the most ludicrous contortions of impotent rage. Our philosopher raves, fumes, gnashes, swears; no drunken fisherman in the pillory could regale her audience with more choice epithets than the Tribune heaps upon the head of the President, nor could she possibly portray a nature more corrupt or a degradation more despicable.

The perversions and misrepresentations of the Tribune upon all subjects are known and acknowledged. It feeds its numerous readers upon the choicest fabrications, served up in all varieties every day. Its readers are used to the fare, as the men and horses of some countries come to do pretty well upon arsenic as a condiment. The Tribune would not be itself, or anything like itself, if truth in any shape, or justice, could find place in its columns. It is not, then, to be wondered at that the great, luminous, and masterly message of the President should meet with the most truculent denunciation at its hands. But the farcical rage into which the free-love philanthropist precipitates himself is not to be wondered at. Like the little parti-colored animal that roars hen-roosts, our philosopher not only scratches and bites, but he does worse. He reserves for his hour of greatest need, to be used in moments of deepest peril or wrath, the sack of fetid putrescence with which he was born and which must constitute his chief delight through life.

The weapon of his weakness he can wield to rave, subdue—at once his spear and shield.

Take from the Tribune's commentary upon the message its base and indecent epithets, its bald assertion, and still bolder falsification of known and established facts, and there will remain of its diatribe "the little end of nothing sharpened down to a point."

AN ARGUMENT ABANDONED.

One of the principal objections that have been urged against the Lecompton constitution by those opposed to it, is, that by the 14th section of its schedule slavery is fixed upon the people of Kansas until after the year 1864. This argument, however, was formally abandoned by Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, in his late speech in the Senate. He said: "But we are now told by the President that we can change this constitution before 1864. I have no doubt of that. I believe the people have the right to change their constitution when they please, and just how they please." If this be so—and we fully concur with Mr. Wilson that it is—why not let Kansas come into the Union under the Lecompton constitution? By so doing we inflict no wrong upon her people; for if a majority of them are opposed to slavery, they have a right to call a convention the moment she becomes a State, and amend their constitution accordingly.

We give, in another column, from the Mobile Register, the result of a public meeting in relation to the Walker-Pandling affair. It will be seen that the good people of Mobile feel a very warm interest in maintaining the sovereign rights of the government of Nicaragua, and are justly sensitive at any violation of the conceded power of Congress to determine all acts of war on the part of the federal Union. So far we heartily concur with our Mobile friends. Disobedience to the laws of a free country, like ours, is far more to be reprobated and condemned than kindred acts under despotic rule. The law, in the United States, embodies a public judgment of its approval, as well as fixes a rule for the government of individuals. We go, then, a little further than the people of Mobile, and insist that the expedition of Gen. Walker was fitted out and moved in express violation of an act of Congress, and should be condemned as such.

SENATOR HALE ON THE COST OF THE ARMY.

The honorable senator from New Hampshire, in his speech on the army bill a short time ago, laid it down as a fact that it cost the government over \$1,500 per annum for every man in the army. As that senator has a wide-spread reputation as a wit, this assertion may have been intended by him as one of the jokes with which he frequently amuses the grave body of which he is a member, and could certainly have been viewed in no other light by those familiar with the facts of the case had he confined himself to the assertion, without undertaking to give the data on which he based it. Those data are, however, far from sustaining his conclusions. Mr. Hale has a very short way of arriving at his conclusion, which is simply to take all the appropriations he can find for the entire service of the War Department in all its branches; to assume the whole of the gross amount as an expenditure on the army of 150,000 men, and thus deduce the cost of each man. This mode of calculation may have answered Mr. Hale's purpose; but it is not fair towards the War Department, nor towards the army, nor towards the Senate, nor, it may be added, towards the truth. In this, as in all other cases of error, nothing more is requisite to refute the misstatement than merely to give the facts.

In order to make out the sum of \$26,000,000, which is one of the essential premises of Mr. Hale's conclusion, it is necessary to take not only the appropriations for the army proper, but also those for the entire service of the War Department, embracing many expenditures not required for the support of the regular army, but which are necessary to place and keep the nation in a respectable condition of defence—expenditures which are necessary to maintain the dignity and safety of the country, and which would have to be made, unless we intend to disregard these, whether we have or have not any regular army.

The nation must have, and maintain, as all patriotic and reasonable men will admit, some means of defence against aggression on its honor, its peace, or its property. It relies for this mainly on its militia force, composed of the people, and it wisely makes provision, by regular annual appropriations, for securing the means of bringing them into the field in any emergency, with the best auxiliaries for rendering them efficient and counterbalancing their want of military experience—well informed officers, good arms and munitions, and strong and well-planned fortifications. Thus, of the appropriations which Mr. Hale seizes upon to swell his aggregate army expenses to twenty-six millions, a large proportion are really for the common defence, irrespective of the number of men in the regular army. Such are the appropriations for fortifying our sea-board cities, and the most exposed places on our coast; for the establishment and maintenance of public armories and arsenals, where are fabricated and kept up supplies of arms and warlike munitions, not sufficient only for furnishing the regular army, but to enable the country at short notice to make efficient militia, and to put into the field, if necessary, armies counted not by thousands, but by tens or hundreds of thousands. Such, also, are the appropriations for maintaining a War Department to supervise and control all matters connected with the national military service on hand, and for a public academy to impart scientific and practical military education, and to diffuse it throughout the whole country. If Mr. Hale will take the trouble patiently and fairly to separate all these appropriations from the lumping aggregate he has assumed, he will find his twenty-six millions per annum for the maintenance of the regular army dwindled down to scarcely half that sum. It is not proposed now to do this for him in detail; for it is but fair that he should be allowed the opportunity and privilege of correcting his own errors. The task will also offer him a good exercise in arithmetic, a branch of exact science which ardent pursuit of his peculiar views of political economy may have led him to neglect. If he really wants to know how much per man per annum the regular army costs, he can readily obtain that information by a resolution of inquiry. The War Department, no doubt, will furnish in an accurate and reliable manner, and with as much minuteness of detail as may be called for. His mode of reaching conclusions is manifestly wrong and unfair. He might, with as much propriety, undertake to assume as the cost per annum of each man employed in collecting the revenue by aggregating the entire expenses of the Treasury Department, including the cost of all its custom-houses and other buildings, and dividing it by the number of its employees; or ascertain the cost of each member of the national legislature by the quotient of all the legislative expenses, including the expenditures on the Capitol building, when divided by the number of senators and representatives.

THE MAJORITY.—We all ought to know just what these two little words signify; but six months' additional controversy in Kansas about their meaning, we much fear, will overthrow all past conceptions of their proper place in the English language. The word majority, in reference to elections, signifies the greater of two parties, or one party exceeding all others in numbers. The poll-lists must be consulted to ascertain who are on the side of the majority. In all political affairs, the rule of the majority is acknowledged as the basis of our representative democracy; but it is also acknowledged that voters alone can be counted. Any other rule would destroy the government. If persons refusing to vote are to be counted, it is manifest we can have no elections. The republican press, and some of our democratic friends, talk about their majorities in Kansas with as much confidence and authority as if they had just footed up election returns. Now, we want to know what your majorities were in June last, when you notoriously refused to vote at the election of delegates to the constitutional convention? What were your majorities on the 21st of December, when you refused to vote again upon the constitution then just framed? Where, indeed, do you find your majorities? Are they voters? That is an important question—are they voters? If they are voters, then tell us if they voted the 15th of June?—for that was precisely the time to be felt. If they did not vote, how have you packed them into a majority? We really would like to know.

DEATH OF THE MOTHER OF GOV. RICHARDSON.—We learn that the mother of Gov. Wm. A. Richardson, late of Illinois, and now governor of Nebraska Territory, died, at her old family residence, Montgomery Plains, Fayette county, Kentucky, on the 12th day of January, aged 68 years.—St. Louis Republican.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY—ITS AGRICULTURAL ADVANTAGES, CLIMATE, AND INDUCEMENTS TO EMIGRANTS.

The agricultural advantages possessed by Washington Territory are very great. Although it is emphatically a mountainous country, yet it contains within its borders great prairies and rich grazing lands, which would afford nutriment to countless flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, or would richly repay the agriculturist who should open them to the various productions of the earth.

West of the Cascade mountains there is as large an amount of arable land as in the State of New York. The Walla Walla valley, situated mostly in the Territory of Washington, surpasses in extent, advantages, climate, and soil, that of the great Salt Lake, and can subvert a much larger population. West of the Bitter Root mountains, for a hundred miles in breadth, the soil is not only good, but equal to the western prairies. The remainder of the interior is not only a good grazing country, well adapted to the growing of wool as well as the raising of stock, but large tracts included in the Yakima purchase are unsurpassed for root and cereal.

Fine bodies of rich lands have been explored in the valley of the Chehalis river, which falls into the Pacific at Gray's harbor.

The bottom lands of the Nesqually, Puyallup, Snohomish, White, and Green rivers, the waters of all which disembody in Puget Sound, are broad, rich, and of the most fertile quality, but densely timbered. East of the Cascades, and upon the Columbia river and its northern tributaries, are large bodies of excellent lands. The Cowlitz river, running southwardly, and falling into the Columbia, also drains fertile lands, and has many of the oldest settlers in the Territory among its prosperous farmers. All cereal grains, except Indian corn, flourish admirably here, the wheat in particular being of excellent quality, and yielding abundantly.

There is no State or Territory in the Union that surpasses Washington Territory for the extent of its water power. By reference to a map of the Territory it will be seen that the whole country is traversed by streams of various sizes, which, like veins, extend themselves in every direction. On almost all these streams may be found water power of various capacities. Some of the more important streams may be found near Olympia, back of Seattle, at Whatcom, at the falls of the Snoqualmie, in Bellingham's bay, near Steilacoom, and at Gray's river, which empties into the Columbia, where sufficient power for the largest description of mills and factories can be obtained, while the numerous smaller streams furnish ready and sufficient power for saw or grist mills.

With the exception of the prairies and rich bottom lands already alluded to, the whole of Washington Territory is covered with a dense forest of gigantic timber, of which by far the greatest proportion is spruce, fir, hemlock, and cedar. In the interior the pine is found, and upon the Columbia and around Puget Sound the oak, ash, maple, and cotton wood are in abundance. The readiness with which all this variety of timber can be placed in the various streams, either to be floated to the mills for sawing, or to the shipping, to be transported to foreign ports, renders Washington Territory pre-eminently a desirable location for the lumberman.

The climate of Washington Territory is far milder than in the same latitudes east of the Rocky mountains, and this remark applies to all the Pacific slope west of that great barrier. The cause is from the winds blowing almost constantly from the ocean; during the summer, from the west and northwest, and in winter from the south. The winter winds, coming from the tropics, are consequently warm, and during that period much rain falls; but though the latitude of Washington corresponds in other respects with Wisconsin, Canada, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland, the ground is rarely covered with snow for more than three or four weeks in each year, and often remains unfrozen throughout the entire winter.

The winter at Puget Sound is warmer than Paris, the mean temperature at Olympia being 53°, and at Paris 38°; and at the mouth of the Columbia it is warmer than in Philadelphia, the mean temperature at Astoria being 52°, and at Philadelphia 50°. The climate is peculiarly salubrious, no epidemics prevail, and, as a general thing, the white population of both Oregon and Washington are a remarkably healthy and energetic people. The cause of the great salubrity of climate may be attributed, in part, to the great forests of cedar, fir, and spruce, which have in all ages been considered as exerting a salutary influence on the surrounding atmosphere.

The principal towns are Olympia, the seat of government, which is situated at the head of Puget Sound; and Vancouver, on the Columbia river. The one offers advantages to those desirous of operating in the region bordered by Fucus Straits and Puget Sound; and the other, to those wishing to trade on the Columbia, or be in closer proximity to the citizens of Oregon.

Those wishing to embark in commerce or the fisheries can find excellent locations for planting colonies at Steilacoom, Seattle, Port Madison, Port Townsend, Bellingham's bay, Neah bay, Gray's harbor, and Shoal-water bay, and at the various settlements on the Columbia river.

At all those points real estate is held at reasonable rates, although labor of all kinds is high and in demand. The country at the present time needs only men and means. Small capitalists in particular would find their investments well profitable and speedy returns, and the farmer, grazier, lumberman, mechanic, miner, merchant, or fisherman will find ample scope to pursue their several avocations.

Washington Territory is very rich in its mineral productions; great mines of coal have been opened and are successfully worked at Bellingham's bay; and coal may be found in various localities all over the Territory. The quarries of marble, of granite, and sandstone are inexhaustible, and in copper, iron, lead, and gold the Territory is second to no locality in the vastness of its deposits of those metals which are so necessary to man. Washington Territory is situated on the great highway of the road of nations, and has the most magnificent harbors and roadsteads either on the Atlantic or Pacific shore. Its coal, its fisheries, its lumber, its gold, its extensive and rich grazing lands, its genial climate, its manufacturing advantages, and its soil, which yields the most generous return to labor, present a combination of advantages second to no State or Territory of our common country.

The emigration to Washington Territory has been very much retarded by the late difficulties with the Indians; thousands of persons who had intended making that country their future home have either been diverted from their course to California or southern Oregon, or have not made the attempt to cross the mountains. Now that the Indian war is over, the tide of emigration will soon commence setting rapidly to the West; the wave of population has already reached the Red river of the north, and those regions east of the Rocky mountains that but yesterday were Territories, and to-day are populous States, not only furnish an evidence of the future of Washington Territory, but can add of their surplus population the material with which we shall build up with cities and villages the vast region of our extreme northwest domain.

THE KANSAS MESSAGE.

Extract from a letter from one of the most distinguished democrats in Pennsylvania (who was the intimate personal and political friend of General Jackson) to a gentleman now in this city.

"MY DEAR SIR: Mr. Buchanan will be so crowded with thanks for his noble message that I should have very little chance of being heard. But I am really anxious to say to him how much its manly tone and lucid argument have impressed me. He reminds me of General Jackson, by the manner in which he takes his stand, fearless for himself, appealing to the sober second thought of his countrymen, and for the sake of his country, and I feel as confident now as I did in the darkest hours of the bank campaign that, however the storm may howl, there is a line of light in the horizon which promises a bright to-morrow."

"Say to the President as much of this for me as he may have leisure to listen to; but, at least, give him my thanks for having met the emergency as he has done."

A VOICE FROM CONNECTICUT.

MR. EDITOR: The opposition of all kinds seems to be making great exertions to convince the country that the democracy of the North are opposed to the admission of Kansas into the Union with the Lecompton constitution. I do not pretend to know how it may be elsewhere, but I do claim to understand the sentiments of the democracy of this State, from having for twenty-five years battled as a private soldier in their steady and indomitable ranks. At the late presidential election we gave Mr. Buchanan thirty-five thousand votes, more by two thousand than were ever cast before for any presidential candidate. At the succeeding State election we chose two out of our four representatives as his supporters in Congress, and no one doubts but that at the coming April contest we shall carry the banner of his patriotic administration to a most glorious and overwhelming triumph. The universal feeling of our democratic masses is to stop the eternal screaming about "bleeding Kansas" by the quickest possible and constitutional process, and hundreds of our late opponents most heartily join us in the sentiment. Our yeomanry and mechanics, constituting the strength of the democratic party, remaining quietly upon their farms and in their shops, have rejoiced to see the late rabid and fanatical excitement, most disgraceful to a free and intelligent people, almost utterly die out, and succeeded by a calm and thoughtful reliance upon the wisdom of the Executive and the provisions of the constitution. We, the "rank and file" of the northern democracy, have no sympathies with the vagaries of restless and disappointed politicians who wish to rule or ruin, and who vainly imagine that "wisdom will die with them." We are in favor of the immediate admission of the Territory of Kansas into the Union with the constitution framed by her legally-chosen constitutional convention, and if the act is consummated we will endorse it, and the whole course of our patriotic Chief Magistrate in relation to it, at the ballot-box on the first Monday of April.

CONNECTICUT.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.
ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.—A convention of the democracy of Erie county was held at Erie on the 1st inst. to nominate delegates to the State convention to be held on the 4th of March next. Gilbert Hunt, esq., was called to the chair; John Rice and Wm. Griffith acted as presiding officers; and Benjamin Grant and B. F. Sloan chosen secretaries.

The committee appointed to draught resolutions expressing the views of the convention reported the following:

"Resolved, That we cordially approve of and endorse the doctrines and policy of the President upon all subjects presented in his annual message, and in